

# Reviewing Studies Online for the What Works Clearinghouse

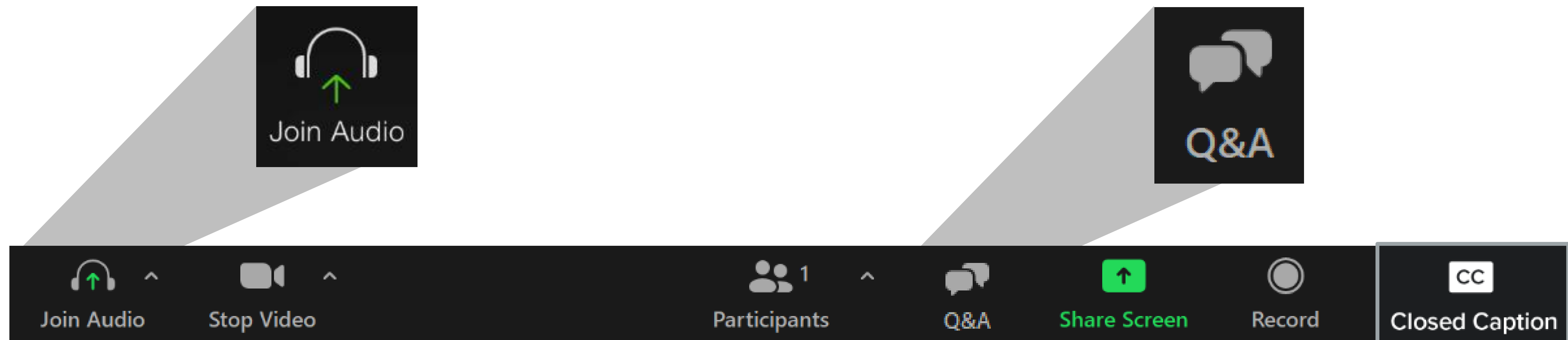
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# Presenters



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# Learning goals for this webinar



- Understand the development, role, and importance of the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) Study Review Guide.
- Learn how to use the Online Study Review Guide (OSRG) in the WWC review process from start to finish.
- Understand how use of the Version 4.1 OSRG User Guide can improve the quality and consistency of WWC study reviews.
- Learn what happens after completing a WWC study review and the implications for WWC reviewers.

# Part 1: History and importance of the WWC Study Review Guide

- WWC study review guides since 2008
- What is the OSRG and why is it important?
- What is the OSRG User Guide and why is it important?

# WWC study review guides (SRG) since 2008

Study design	May 2008	December 2008	September 2011	March 2014	October 2017	December 2017	October 2020
	Version 1.0	Version 2.0	Version 2.1	Version 3.0	Version 4.0		Version 4.1
Randomized controlled trial	Excel SRG				OSRG <sup>a</sup>		
Quasi-experimental design							
Single-case design	-	-	Excel SRG				
Regression discontinuity design	-	-	Excel SRG				

<sup>a</sup> The OSRG was released in December 2017 shortly after the release of Version 4.0 standards. The OSRG also can be used to review studies using Version 3.0 and Version 4.1 Standards.

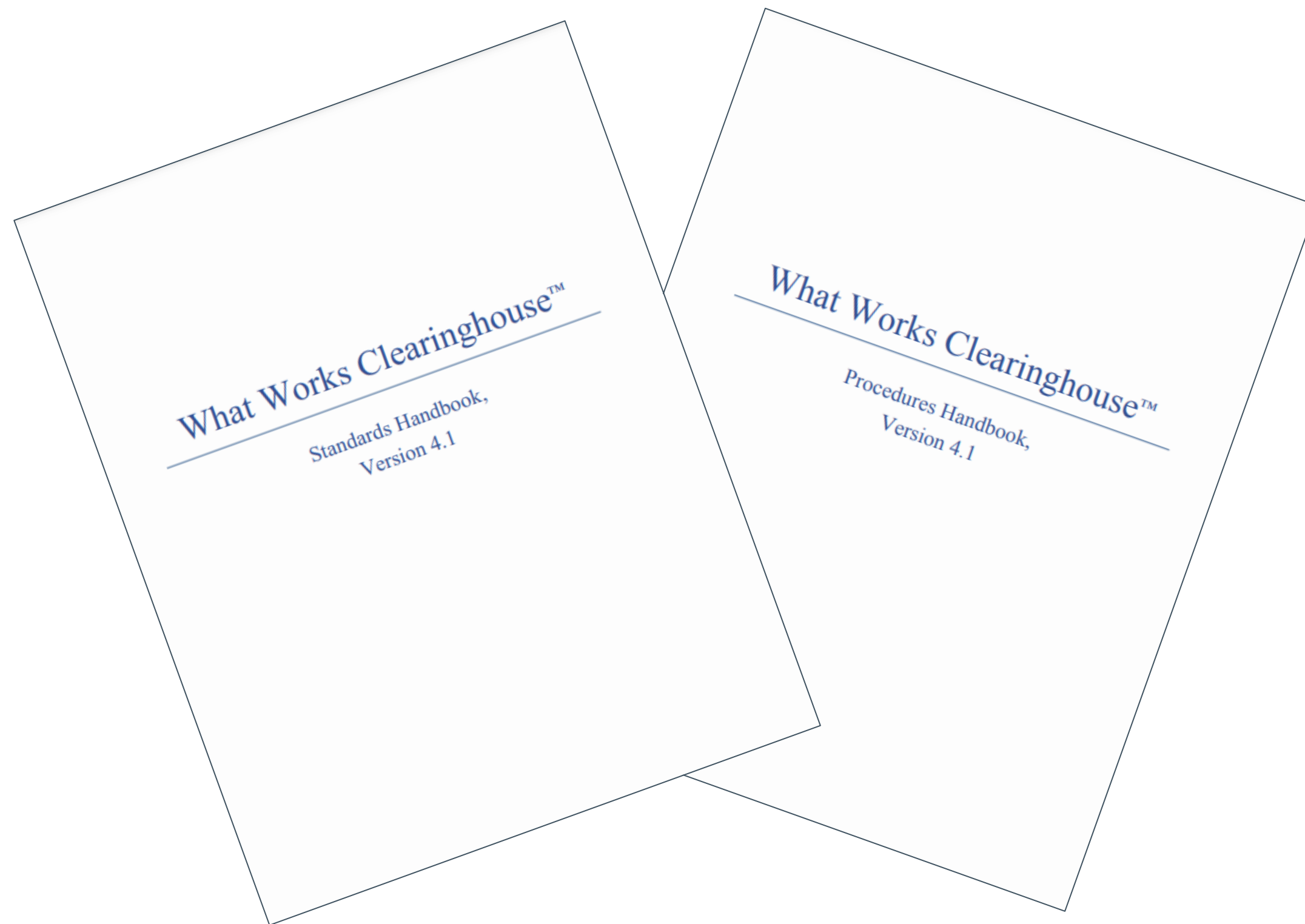


# What is the OSRG and why is it important?

- **The WWC OSRG is the foundation for all WWC products:**
  - Reviews of Individual Studies (for randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental designs)
  - Practice Guides
  - Intervention Reports
- The WWC created the OSRG to streamline the study review process.
- The OSRG is part of the WWC's effort to increase the transparency and accuracy of WWC reviews.



# What is the OSRG and why is it important?

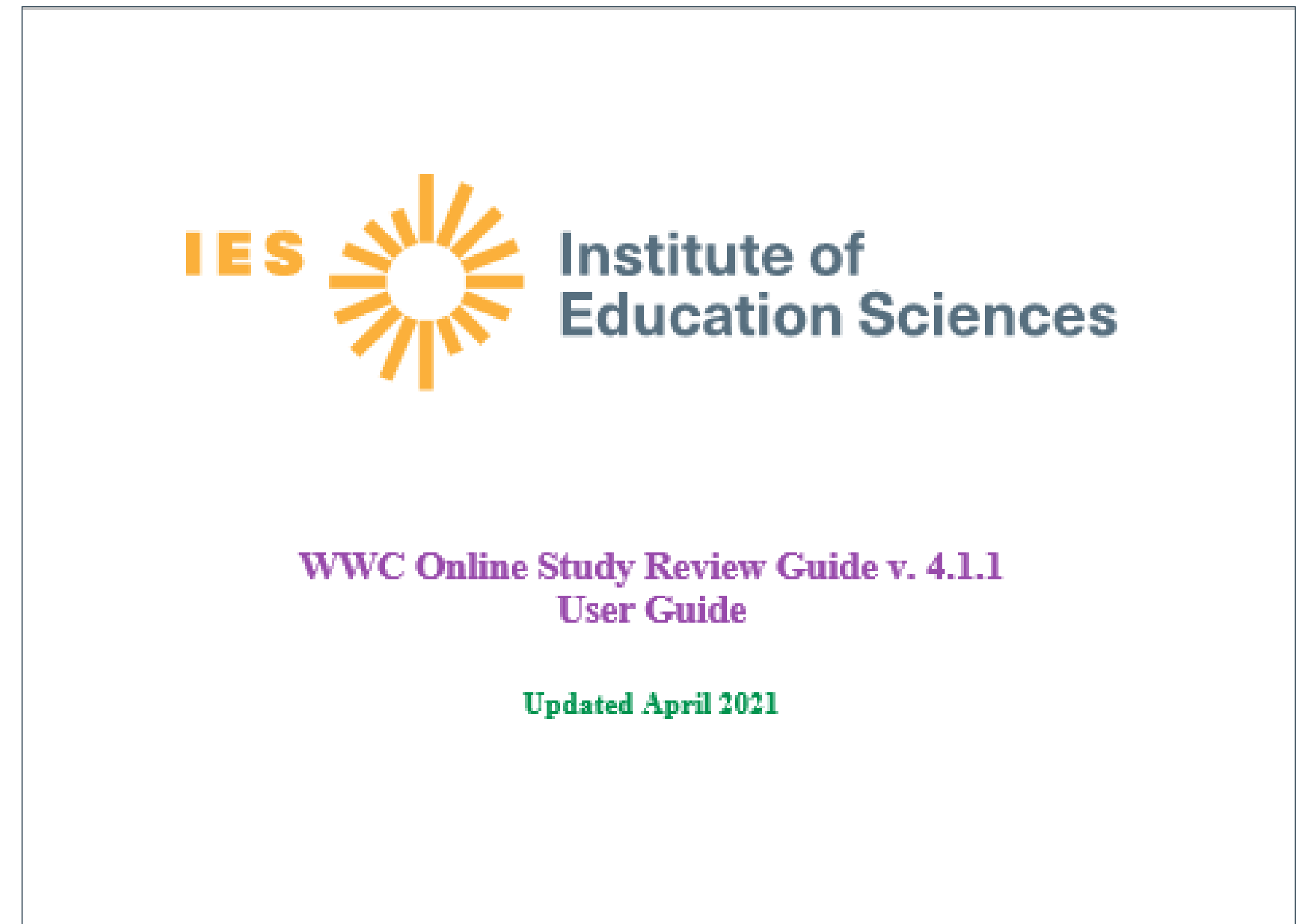


- Reviewers use the OSRG to document study characteristics, including eligibility for review under the Study Review Protocol, and to assess the internal validity of the study design against the *WWC Standards, Version 4.1*.
- The OSRG automatically applies the *WWC Standards and Procedures Handbooks, Version 4.1* to the information from the study review to provide a WWC rating and summarize study findings.



# What is the OSRG User Guide Version 4.1 and why is it important?

- To standardize OSRG use, the WWC created Version 4.1 of the OSRG User Guide.
- Using this guide can improve WWC reviews in the following areas:
  - Accuracy
  - Consistency
  - Completeness
  - Transparency



## Part 2: Using the OSRG to review studies

- Starting a WWC review
- Screening studies for eligibility in the OSRG
- Reviewing studies using the OSRG
- Checking the ratings screen
- Additional review tips

# Logging into the OSRG

Log in at <https://members.nces.ed.gov/websitetools/wwcsrg/>.

WWC.SRG

Please log in.

Email

Password

☐ Accept Terms?

Log in

[Forget your password?](#)



# Getting started on a WWC review: My tasks

When you log in to the OSRG, the first screen will show your assigned tasks.

## My tasks.

	Study Id	Author List	Publication Date	Intervention	Protocol	Status	Due date	Escalation Level
	- Filter Study Id -	- Filter Author List -	- Filter Publication Date -	- Filter Intervention -	- Filter Protocol -	- Filter Status -	- Filter Due date -	- Filter Escalation Level -
Review	90203	McGill, B. R.	2006	Student Success Course	Study Review Protocol	In progress	3/12/2021	

# Getting started on a WWC review: OSRG updates

The OSRG Updates tab highlights important updates to the OSRG.

## OSRG Updates

Date	Notes
5/13/2021	Added explanatory box with user guidance on populating information from the ERIC database.
4/13/2021	Uploaded version 4.1 of the OSRG User Guide.
3/16/2021	The synthesis page has been updated to allow viewing of the demographic information prior to publishing to CMS.
2/9/2021	Uploaded the revised OSRG Version 4.0 Users Guide to the OSRG Resource Library
12/23/2020	Uploaded version 4.1 of the Study Review Protocol
12/23/2020	Uploaded two guides to the resources library for implementing version 4.1 in the OSRG
12/23/2020	Deployed the OSRG for implementing version 4.1 of the WWC standards and procedures
12/9/2020	Updated form for adding/updating a protocol to WWC website to reflect need for accessibility reports
11/18/2020	Fixed an error in the Context page to now only allow integers to be entered into the data fields.

# Getting started on a WWC review: Search for resources

WWC.SRGOSRG UpdatesMy tasksCoordinator dashboardContentSearchHello afeygin@air.org!Log off

My tasks.

WWC.SRGOSRG UpdatesMy tasksCoordinator dashboardContentSearchHello afeygin@air.org!Log off

Search for resources.

Document Name	Description	Date	Topics	Video URL	Document
- Filter Document Name -	- Filter Description -	- Filter Date	- Filter Topics	- Filter V	- Filter Document -
Request to Add/Update a Protocol to the WWC Website	Contractors should complete this form to request that the SWAT team add a review protocol to the WWC website.	6/23/2021	Templates		<a href="#">Request to Add-Update a Protocol to the WWC Website-NEW.pdf</a>
OSRG User Guide	This document provides reviewers with instructions for using the Online Study Review Guide, Version 4.1, which is the web-based tool that supports reviews against the Version 4.1 Group Design standards.	4/13/2021	User guidance		<a href="#">WWC-OSRG-User-Guide-v4.1.1 - 508c - Submitted - 04.09.21.docx</a>
OSRG User Guide	This document provides reviewers with instructions for using the Online Study Review Guide, Version 4.0, which is the web-based tool that supports reviews against the Version 4.0 Group Design standards.	2/9/2021	User guidance		<a href="#">WWC_OSRG_v4_User_Guide.pdf</a>
Infographic—Standards and Procedures 4.1: Changes to the Online Study Review Guide in Version 4.1, Highlights for WWC Certified Reviewers	This infographic describes high-level changes to the OSRG as a result of the new Version 4.1 Standards and Procedures updates.	1/12/2021	User guidance Standards handbooks Procedures handbooks		<a href="#">SWAT Changes to the Online Study Review2-v4_508.pdf</a>

Search existing reviews

Search existing interventions

Search existing protocols

Search existing measures

Search existing studies

Search existing syntheses

Search author queries

Search resources



# Additional tips: Data entry for studies that Meet WWC Group Design Standards With or Without Reservations

## Study Context

- Enter the analytic sample size, using the largest sample size if there are different sample sizes across different outcome measures.
- Confirm that the topic areas and grade levels are correct.
- Enter percentages for different racial/ethnic groups, English learners, and students in special education programs when reported.
- Include region and state in the “Where was the study conducted?” field.
- Consult the webinar [Documenting Study Context in WWC Reviews of Group Design Studies](#) and Version 4.1 of the OSRG User Guide for additional guidance.

# Additional tips: Data entry for studies that Meet WWC Group Design Standards With or Without Reservations

## Narrative

- Write in complete sentences and proofread your entries.
- Consult the OSRG User Guide, Version 4.1 for additional guidance.



# Additional tips: Data entry for studies that Do Not Meet WWC Group Design Standards



**Question:** How much study data should be entered in the measures section of the OSRG?

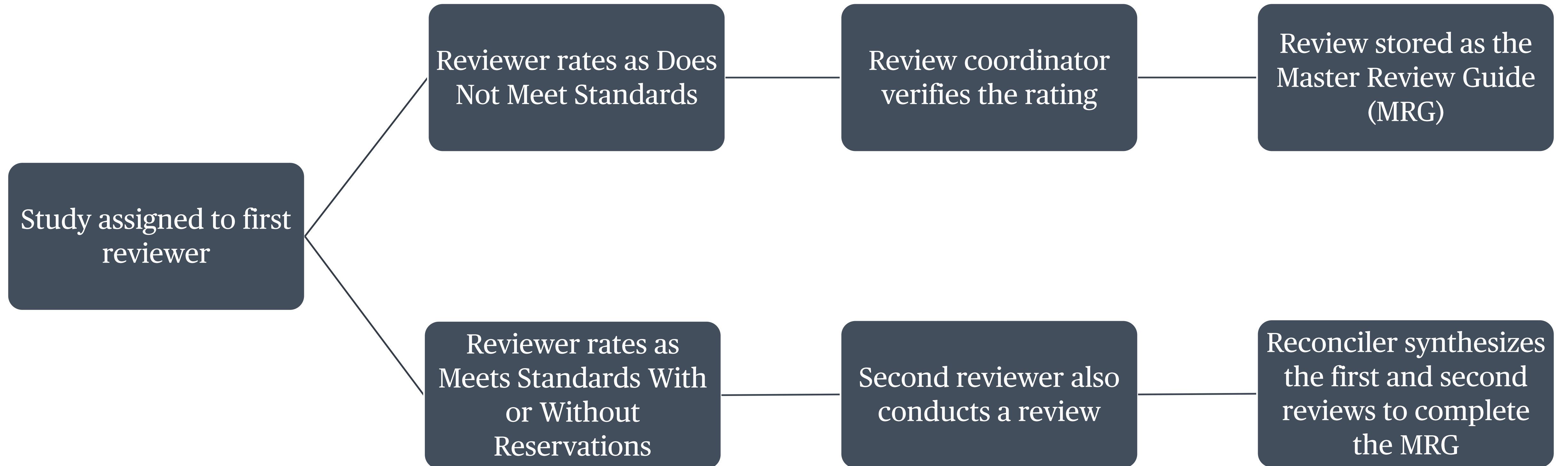
**Answer:** The same amount as if the study met standards!  
However, you do not need to complete the context and narrative sections.



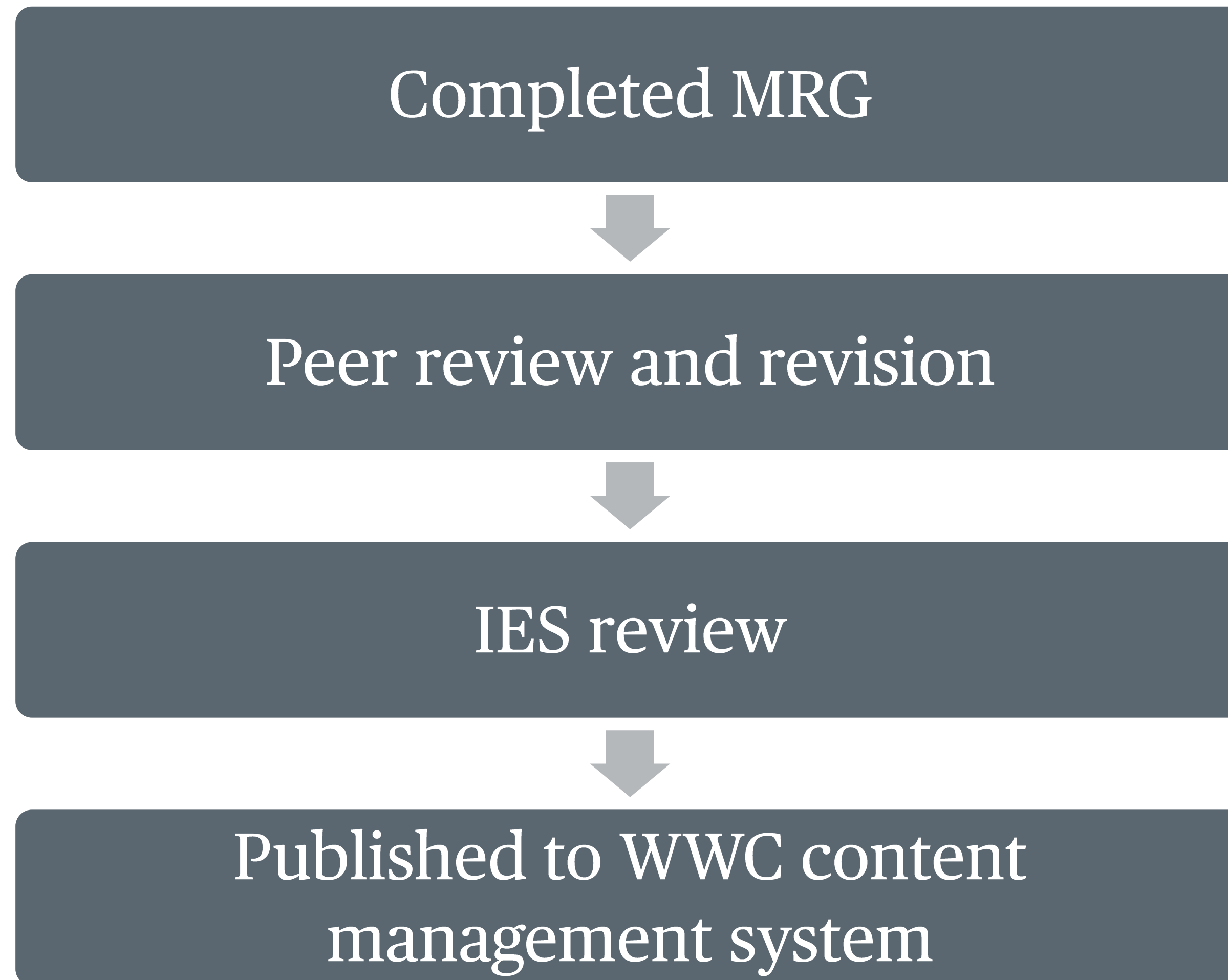
## Part 3: What happens after a WWC review is completed?

- Reconciliation
- IES and peer review
- Next step for posting on the website: Publishing to the CMS
- Quality checks

# Reconciliation



# IES and peer review



This is the key ingredient for WWC products, such as Intervention Reports and Practice Guides.

This is a multi-step process for confirming accuracy of completed MRGs that met standards and the WWC Products that are developed from the MRGs: Intervention Reports and Practice Guides.



# Publishing to the WWC content management system

- WWC products are posted to a content management system before going to the public website.
  - The content management system also pulls in MRG data from published study reviews and Intervention Report syntheses.
- Before publicly releasing Intervention Reports and Practice guides, the WWC conducts a final quality review.
  - Quality reviewers ensure that the content management system (which pulls from the MRG matches the Intervention Report/Practice Guide PDFs).



# Quality checks of WWC reviews: A brief overview

There are two types of quality checks that the WWC conducts:

## **Discrepancy check:**

- Selected MRGs are examined for discrepancies.
- A WWC certified reviewer examines each MRG field for coding differences between the two original reviewers.
- The differences are verified by the task lead and documented as discrepancies.

## **Audit:**

- MRGs are randomly selected for audits.
- A WWC certified reviewer independently codes the study to create a new MRG.
- Another WWC certified reviewer compares it to the original MRG for coding differences.
- The differences are verified by the task lead, who sends a report to WWC contractors requesting corrections or clarifications.

# Questions?





Have questions? Contact us: <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/help>



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# Additional resources

- [OSRG User Guide Version 4.1](#)
  - [Infographic–Standards and Procedures 4.1: Changes to the Online Study Review Guide in Version 4.1, Highlights for WWC Certified Reviewers](#)
  - [Summary of Changes for the Version 4.1 OSRG](#)
  - [User Guide for Aggregating Findings in Version 4.1](#)
- [WWC Standards Handbook, Version 4.1](#)
- [WWC Procedures Handbook, Version 4.1](#)
- WWC Webinars:
  - [Missing Data in Group Design Studies](#)
  - [Documenting Study Context in WWC Reviews of Group Design Studies](#)
  - [WWC Review Protocols: What's the Point?](#)

Thank you for attending today's webinar!